

REMARKS

Summary

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action mailed on August 31, 2005. Claims 1, 2, 5, and 6 are amended. Claims 4, 7, 14, 16, 17, 50 are cancelled. Claims 18-48 have been withdrawn.

Claims 1, 4-5, 11-12, 16 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Ward (US 5,221,503).

Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Itaya (US 5,500,994)

Claims 1, 6, 11, 12, 14, 15, and 50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Reiter (US 6,889,419).

Claims 7-10 and 13 are rejected under 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ward, Itaya, or Reiter in view of the level of ordinary skill of a worker in the art.

Discussion of Amended Claims

Claim 1 is amended to include the subject matter of claims 4, 7, and 14. Claims 4, 7, 14, 16, 17, and 50 are cancelled.

Claims 2, 5, and 6 are amended to conform to the amendments made to claim 1.

Discussion of Reiter

Claim 1 is amended to include the subject matter of claims 4, 7, and 14. The Examiner has rejected claim 14 as being anticipated by Reiter. This rejection is respectfully traversed. An anticipation rejection requires that each and every element of the claimed invention as set forth in the claim be provided in the cited reference. See *Akamai Technologies Inc. v. Cable & Wireless Internet Services Inc.*, 68 USPQ2d 1186 (CA FC 2003), and cases cited therein. As discussed in detail below, Reiter does not meet the requirements for an anticipation rejection.

Amended claim 1 specifies an electric motor with a rotor having a continuous annular sintered magnetic body which is molded onto the back yoke body with its back yoke side abutting the back yoke body. The region of the back yoke body which carries the annular sintered magnetic body has thermal expansion properties that are of the same order of magnitude as the thermal expansion properties of the annular sintered magnetic body.

Reiter does not disclose or remotely suggest a rotor design as set forth in Applicant's amended claim 1. In particular, Reiter does not disclose or suggest a continuous annular sintered magnetic body as claimed by Applicant. Reiter discloses only the positioning of magnetically non-conducting segments 18 and permanent magnetic segments 20 which segments are held together by layers of powder metal 22 between the segments themselves and between the segments and the back yoke body as shown in Figure 2A (Col. 8, lines 52-57). Accordingly, the design and construction of the rotor disclosed in Reiter is complicated, as it requires two different types of segments to be placed on the back yoke body and fixed with respect to each other and with respect to the back yoke body by powder metal between the segments themselves and between the segments and the back yoke body.

In contrast to the rotor design of Reiter, the rotor design of Applicant's claimed invention in accordance with claim 1 is simplified. In particular, Applicant's claimed invention provides a continuous annular sintered magnetic body which is directly molded on the back yoke body, and therefore abuts against the back yoke body without any intermediate metal layers as are present in Reiter.

Applicant's amended claim 1 further specifies that a region of the back yoke body carrying the annular sintered magnetic body has thermal expansion properties that are of the same order of magnitude as the thermal expansion properties of the annular sintered magnetic body. Such a feature is not disclosed or suggested by Reiter, as Reiter provides intermediate layers of metal powder between the segments and the back yoke body, and these layers provide elasticity in the aximuthal direction and the radial direction, so that there is no need to adapt the thermal expansion properties of the segments to the back yoke body in Reiter.

With the designs of the prior art references that use plastic material for bonding the magnetic powder material, such as Ward and Itaya, it is not necessary to provide such an adaptation of the thermal expansion properties, as the plastic material between the magnetic powder particles provides sufficient elasticity so that the thermal expansion properties are not a design issue.

In sum, the design set forth in Applicant's amended claim 1 provides advantages over the prior art in that it is less complicated and provides improved thermal stability.

As Reiter does not disclose each and every element of the invention as claimed, the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) are believed to be improper, and withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested. See, *Akamai Technologies Inc.*, *supra*.

Applicants respectfully submit that the present invention is not anticipated by and would not have been obvious to one skilled in the art in view of Reiter, taken alone or in combination with any of the other prior art of record.

Further remarks regarding the asserted relationship between Applicant's claims and the prior art are not deemed necessary, in view of the amended claims and the foregoing discussion. Applicant's silence as to any of the Examiner's comments is not indicative of an acquiescence to the stated grounds of rejection.

Withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is therefore respectfully requested.

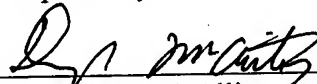
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Conclusion

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider this application, allow each of the pending claims and to pass this application on to an early issue. If there are any remaining issues that need to be addressed in order to place this application into condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to telephone Applicant's undersigned attorney.

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Respectfully submitted,



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